AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 09 September 2003 (09.09-03); original claims 1-7 replaced by amended claims 1-3 (1 page)]

[What is Claimed is]

- 1. (Amended) Immunoglobin A polypeptide diagnosing Diabetic retinopathy wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 and a peptide fragment of the polypeptide sequence SEQ ID NO:1.
- (Amended). The protein of claim 1 wherein the peptide fragment comprises peptide sequence SEQ ID NO: 2. 10
 - З. (Deleted).

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4. (Deleted).

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- 5. (Deleted).
- (Amended) A method for diagnosing diabetic б. retinopathy, comprising:
- 20 a) treating the antibody against polypeptide of claim 1 or 2 with a blood sample and an peroxidase, alkaline phosphatase or biotin conjugated-anti-Immunoglobulin A protein; and
 - b) measuring optical density of the compound,
- wherein diabetic retinopathy is diagnosed when the 25 measured value represents optical density (ELISA value) lower than normal one.
 - 7. (Deleted).

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